

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Amend the specification as follows.

Amend the Title wherever it appears to read as follows:

DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF PSEUDOMONAS SPECIES USING  
THE 16S-23S rRNA SPACER

Page 1, after the Title, insert the following new paragraph:

The present application is divisional of application Serial No. 09/448,894, filed November 29, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,312,903), which in turn is a divisional application of Serial No. 08/765,332, filed December 23, 1996 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,025,132), which is a 371 U.S. national phase of PCT/EP95/02452, filed June 23, 1995, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Insert the attached ABSTRACT in place of the Abstract submitted with the Preliminary Amendment dated August 17, 2001.